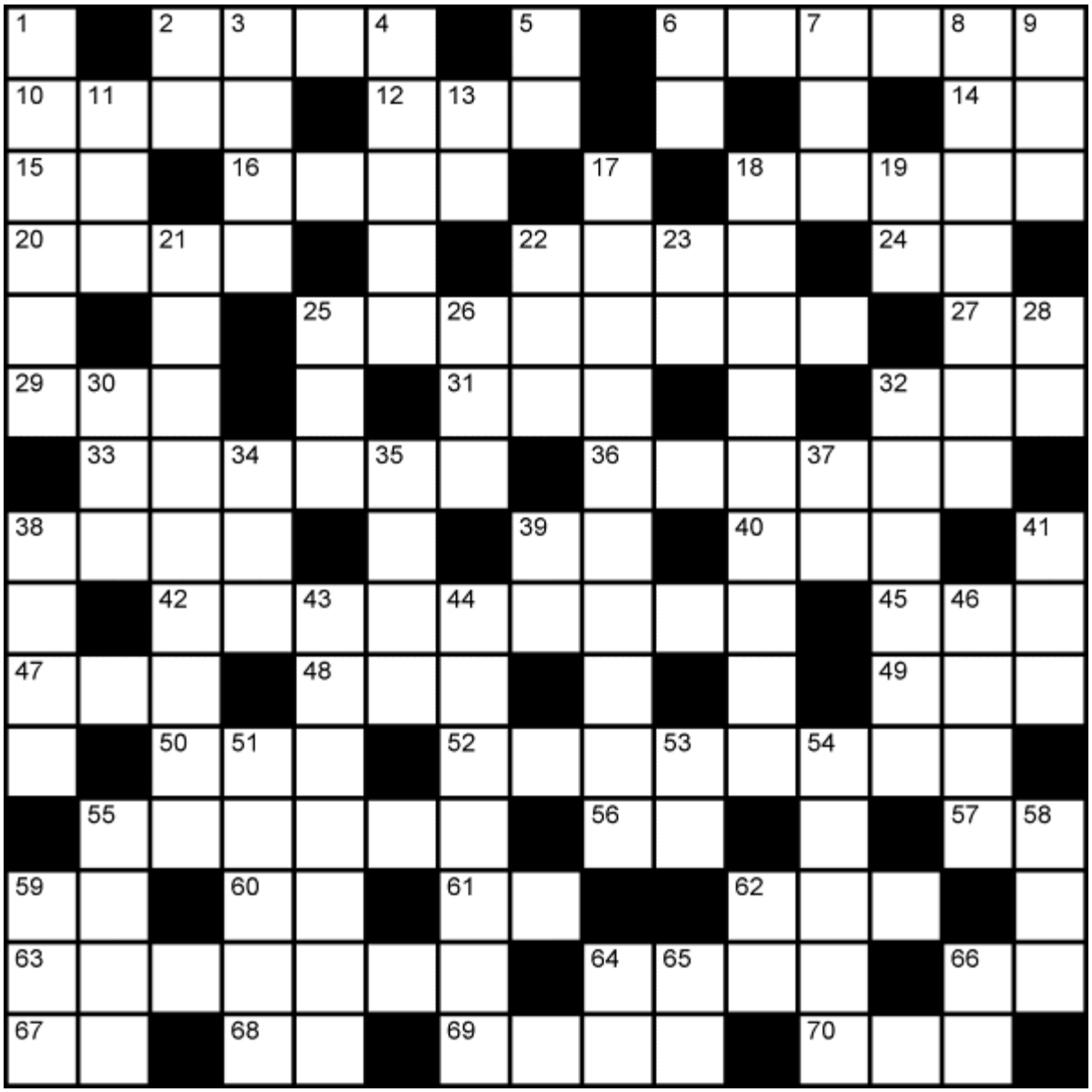
Volume 11, Edition 1 January

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

2007



A PUZZLER FROM THE ARRL WEB SITE

Across

2. A crafty antenna manufacturer
6. Type of bearing
10. Has the prefix A4
12. Digital response for "received OK"
14. Puts out a signal (abbr)
15. Output resistance (abbr)
16. To start up (abbr)
18. Contains water vapor, undesirable on Field Day
20. Give up
22. Field Day station for new hams
24. External tube dimension
25. Heats a tube
27. Runs an ARES team
29. December time zone at ARRL HQ
31. Big Blue computer company

32. Conclusion
33. What you do at your QTH
36. Flip over
38. Thin conductor
39. Handheld radio (abbr)
40. Equivalent loss component (abbr)
42. Stores electrical energy
45. Keeps an FM signal centered
47. Equal scores
48. Not working properly
49. Just a little
50. Forward and reflected (abbr)
52. Too much 50 Across
55. Strips that hold something on or together
56. Next to ND in tenth district
57. Fields in a radio wave
59. Station that runs the net
60. Long-term ham (abbr)
61. Collector current (abbr)
62. What circuits are built on (abbr)
63. Graph of radiation by direction
64. CQ for that last state
66. Oldest phone mode
67. Number (abbr)
68. Magic band propagation mode (abbr)
69. Take quickly
70. Acknowledge (abbr)

Down

1. Twisting force
2. State with its own call district

3. What something is measured in
4. North American country whose prefix is all dits
5. Pause (CW prosign)
6. Amount of delay (abbr)
7. Oldest logic family
8. One who studies
9. Packet TNC parameter for transmitter timing
11. Written agreement
13. Popular contest logging program by K1EA
17. Groups that administer or report
18. Launch facility
19. Band monitor
21. Unintended reception
22. Yak
23. Propagation across the equator (abbr)
25. Informative memo (abbr)
26. Fib
28. Non-volatile rotating memory media
30. CW abbreviation of regret
32. List of errors

34. Full of salt water
35. Duplicate installations
37. And (CW abbr)
38. One joule per second
39. Telegrapher's laugh
41. Imaging chip
43. Bootleggers
44. What CL means about your station
46. Reduction in received signal strength
51. Written in the past
53. Read (abbr)
54. Amateur satellite
55. Unhealed or unrepaired damage
58. Our type of radio
59. Bipolar transistor type
62. Engineer that stamps building plans
64. Output stage of a transmitter (abbr)
65. Meausre of weight (abbr)
66. End of message (CW prosign)

FROM THE TOP: CHANGES

The December meeting at Cal Italia went well and the new club officers were installed. Dan, KG6LJN, was kind enough to provide me with a crown and a 6-pack for becoming President. I would like to thank Dan for the great job he did as President last year and wish him the best in his new adventure in Mississippi. I hope Dan will keep in touch and we can all test out Echolink and IRLP.

The officers for this year are Dave, KD6FIL, President, Eileen, KG6QNT, Vice President, Joan, W6WXU, Secretary, Ken, N6KM, Treasurer. By default Jim, K6UUW was made Education Officer and Mike, WB6TMH, was made Radio Officer.

With the changes being made by the FCC in dropping the code requirements (see the Code or Not to Code article in the newsletter) it might be possible to work Dan on 10 meters if the band ever opens up. The FCC also changed the 80 and 40 meter and 15 meter band limits (which went into effect on December 15. For a General License holder:

15 meter band is:
Voice: 21.450 to 21.275 MHz
CW, Data and RTTY No Change (21.20 to 21.025 MHz)

40 meter band is:
Voice: 7.30 to 7.175 MHz
CW, Data and RTTY 7.125 to 7.025 MHz.

80 meter band:
Voice: 4.00 to 3.80 MHz
CW, Data and RTTY 3.60 to 3.525 MHz.

2007 should be a fun year with a lot of activities. The Baker to Vegas Race is April 21 and 22. The Hamfest is on April 28. Field Day is going to be June 23 and 24. There will also be local events, Hit the Road Jack, 4th of July Parade and the Vintage Festival.
The January meeting is planned for the Fire Station in Sonoma on January 17. The scheduled speaker is Bob, K6QXY, discussing EME. We need to get people signed up for Net Control Station for ACS and VOMARC for the year ahead. The planning and paperwork need to start for

Field Day. Do we want to have the Field Day at Maxwell Park? Dues are due for 2007 so bring your checkbook to the meeting or mail it in to VOMARC/CO the Sonoma Police Department.

I am looking forward to having a fun year with VOMARC and hope you can participate in some of the events in the coming year.

From the ARRL Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary -

... Congratulations to the Humboldt Amateur Radio Club in Eureka for re-qualifying as an ARRL Special Service Club. It was well earned!
Special Service Club status is bestowed on affiliated clubs that meet a long list of criteria involving education, service to the Amateur Radio community and public service. These clubs are the cut above. Only two clubs in the Section have qualified as Special Service Clubs. HARC shares the limelight with the Valley of the Moon ARC in Sonoma, another "go get 'em" club. Many thanks to the membership of both clubs for their dedication. ...

2007 VE SCHEDULE

So you have somewhat of a heads up as to the schedule for the coming year, here are the dates I have sent to ARRL for VOMARC's VE sessions.

January 27
April 28
August 25
December 1
As I have done in the past I will send out a request for who will be available for these dates approximately 2 - 3 weeks ahead of each date.

Joel Nadler, NN6J
VOMARC VE Coordinator

To Code or Not to Code, That is not the Question.

On December 15, 2006 the FCC released a notice that they are doing away with the Morse Code requirement for amateur radio licensing. The new rule will go into effect 30 days after the rules are published in the Federal Register (which has not happened as of December 30, that I can find). It looks like the new rules will go into effect sometime in February.

So what does this mean? I went to the ARRL website (http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt05-235/) to see what the news is and clipped a few items out for information from the ARRL website.

For the Technician who wants to get on HF:
Q. I am a "no-code" Technician. What does WT Docket 05-235 mean to me?

A. Once the changes are in effect, all Technician licensees -- whether or not they have passed a Morse code examination -- will have "Tech Plus" operating

privileges. This means you will have all of your current VHF/UHF and above frequencies and also will have access to the Novice/Technician Plus frequencies on HF. These include:
3525-3600 kHz **CW only** – 80 meters
7025-7125 kHz **CW only** – 40 meters
21,025-21,200 kHz **CW only** – 15 meters
28,000-28,300 kHz CW, RTTY and Data – 10 meters
28,300-28,500 kHz CW, SSB –10 meters
The power limit is 200 W PEP output for Technician operators.

Technicians can upgrade to General by passing the Element 3 written exam and to Amateur Extra by also passing the Element 4 written exam. No Morse code test will be required. For the person that has passed the Element 3 Test for General privileges' or plans on taking the General test soon:

Q. I have a Certificate for Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3 (General written test) and have been waiting for the FCC to drop the Morse code requirement. What will I need to do? Will I automatically receive my General license?

A. ***It will not happen automatically***. You also will need to wait until the new rules are in effect. CSCEs remain valid for 365 days. There's been no change in that rule. If you have a ***non-expired CSCE*** for Element 3 credit, you would need to go to take the CSCE to a VE test session, pay the test session fee, if any, and have the examination team prepare and submit the paperwork for your license upgrade.
If the CSCE for Element 3 credit has expired or expires before you attend a test session to process your upgrade, you will have to retake the examination element in order to receive the credit toward your upgrade. The test session fee will apply.
Remember: A CSCE is only valid for 365 days. An expired CSCE for the General license theory will not be usable for an upgrade. If your CSCE expires before the new rules go into effect you will have to re-take the Element 3 General class theory exam in order to upgrade.

The new rules give the Technician License holder voice and data privileges on 10 meters and CW privileges on 15, 40 and 80 meters. It is possible to use your computer to do CW if you are interested in exploring the HF bands. We are at the bottom of the solar cycle and it will be a while before 10 meters opens back up.

There are occasional 10 meter openings even now. With a dipole antenna and a 10 meter rig you can be making contacts around the world. Give it a try. Ask a club member for help if you need assistance getting an antenna up or setting up your rig.

FOR SALE:
HF equipment:
All items believed to be in good working condition.
Kenwood TS 140S HF transceiver-$350
MFJ 962C Versa Tuner III. 1.5 kW antenna tuner
Heathkit SB200 linear amplifier - $200
Johnson Viking kW Match Box - $200
Kenwood PS 430 power supply
MFJ 422-B electronic keyer paddle
Ham Keyer HK5A keyer
VHF/UHF equipment, near new condition. Both items barely used.
Astron RS 20A power supply.
Kenwood TM 742A tribander 2M/440/1.2 with tower antenna and mag-mount.
Eran, KD6KVO, 996-8933, glago@comcast.net

Kantronics All Mode Communicator, a TNC that will do Morse (CW), RTTY, ASCII, AMTOR and Packet on HF and Packet on VHF/UHF. With manual and in good working order. $50.00
32 foot crank-up mast and base by Tristao. WIll support tri-band antenna easily. $100.00. Base needs some repair.
VOMARC c/o Ken McTaggart N6KM 938-2626, kmct@vom.com.

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 11 EDITION 1

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF
Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL– President
Eileen Adams, KG6QNT, Vice-President/Membership Chair
Joan Brady, W6WXU – Secretary
Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Treasurer
Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer
Ken McTaggert, N6KM – ACS
Jan Bush, AE6FQ – Webmeister
Joel Nadler, NN6J – VE Liaison
Jim Hill, K6UUW, Elmer Coordinator
Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge, and the Sonoma Fire Station, 630 2nd Street West, Sonoma. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE:
http://www.vomarc.org/

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as “SNV1EC”. “SNVGW” can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is “SNVND”.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa’s Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

wd6bor@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

175 First Street West

Sonoma, CA 95476

Valley of the Moon ARC
175 First Street West

NOTICE!!! THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE SONOMA FIRE STATION, 630 SECOND STREET WEST CU THERE!

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2007 Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.
QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name:_____CALL:_____EMAIL:_____

Address:_____APT:_____

City:_____State:_____ZIP:_____

Name:_____CALL:_____EMAIL:_____

Name:_____CALL:_____EMAIL:_____

VOMARC: $_____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, 402 Fourth Street East, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**